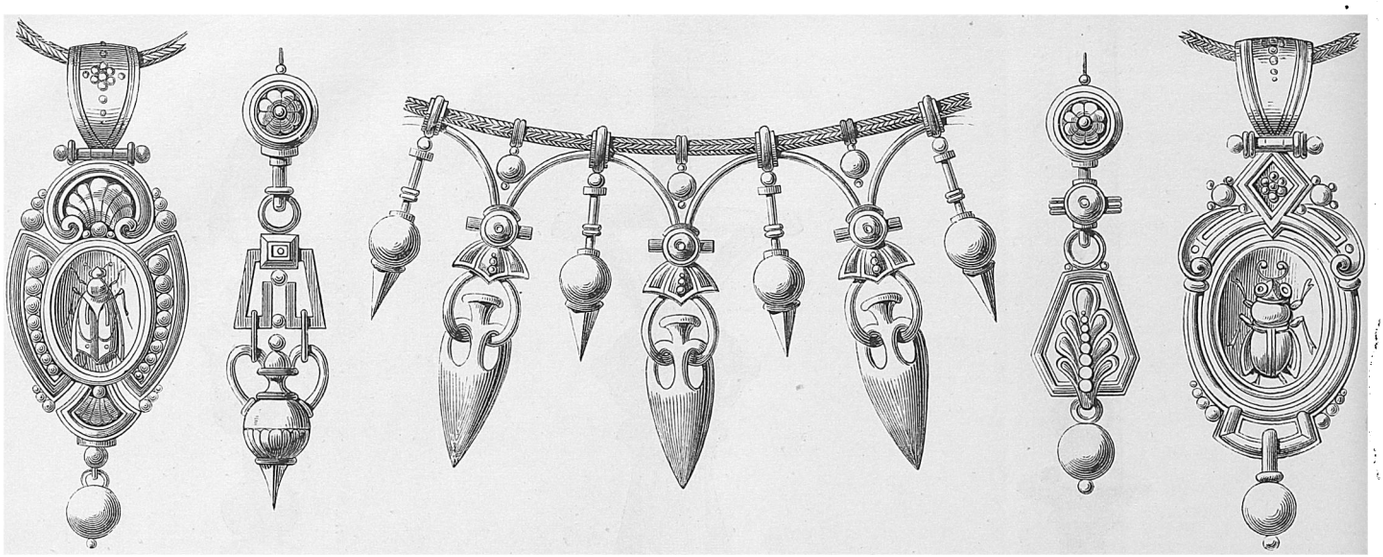

Nos. 36—40. Roman Jewellery, manufactured by Mr. C. Ansorge, Rome.

VARIOUS.

Gluing in Veneers.

I have advised the use of waterproof cements for fine inlaying, so that dampness will not affect them, but as this is not always convenient, it is well to make the glue so that it can be used and the work finished off in a short time. This is easily done by making the glue as thick as it will run, or so that it is like a jelly. If applied in this condition, it will set hard in thirty minutes and the work may be cut down without fear or danger of its moving. I have done this frequently, in order to see what kind of work I was making. Always put a clamp on your work wherever you can, for although the glue will adhere of itself to the wood, it adheres much more strongly if pressed down by a clamp. Also, never put a veneer on a piece of work that is uneven, for although it may set square under the pressure of the clamp, when you come to scrape it, it will give way and yield to the inequalities, and when varnished and polished, will be full of depressions.

Don't be afraid to rub down with sand paper, under the impression that you are spoiling the work, but let the varnish get thoroughly dried, and be hard before you attempt it. Be sure, also, to remove every particle of varnish if you touch it at all, otherwise that which remains will take a coat while the bare wood will not take so much, and you will have a surface full of scars and ridges. It is not necessary to touch the wood in rubbing down, but go down to the wood, so that a waxy appearance is presented, and you will have a handsome finish that will add greatly to the beauty of the work. White holly is easily soiled when used in connection with ebony, by the dust from it, and it will be necessary to rub it, or scrape it delicately, before varnishing, without touching the ebony.

Watson's Manual of the Hand Lathe.

Liquid Glue.

The preparation of liquid glue is based upon the property of the concentrated acid of vinegar and diluted nitric acid to dissolve the gelatine without destroying its cohesive qualities. Dumoulin has given the following recipe. He prepares his »liquid and unalterable glue« in a pint of water, and then gradually adding three and a half ounces of nitric acid of 36° Beaumé. Effervescence takes place under generation of nitrous gas. When all the acid has been added, the liquid is allowed to cool.

Fehling has analyzed various kinds of liquid glue, the better kinds of which only became liquid by placing the bottles in tepid water, the more inferior kinds, however, were liquid at the ordinary temperature.

Russian glue — white, opaque, and solid at the common temperature — was found to consist of 35.6 per cent of dry glue; 4.1 per cent of sulphate of lead; 1.4 per cent of hydrated nitric acid; 53.9 per cent of water. Total 100 parts.

It may be prepared by softening one hundred parts of the best glue in one hundred parts of warm water and then adding slowly from five and a half to six parts of aqua fortis, and finally six parts of powdered sulphate of lead. The latter is used in order to impart to it a white color.

Pale »steam glue« consists of 27 per cent of dry glue; 1.9 per cent of sulphate of lead; 2.5 per cent of hydrated nitric acid; 68.6 per cent of water. Total, 100 parts. It is prepared by dissolving one hundred parts of glue in double its weight of water, and adding twelve parts of aqua fortis.

Dark »steam glue« contained 35.5 per cent of dry glue; 3.5 per cent of hydrated nitric acid; 61 per cent of water, and can be obtained from one hundred parts of glue, one hundred and forty parts water, and sixteen parts of aqua fortis. This liquid glue exhibits a greater cohesive force than that prepared after Dumoulin's recipe. However, still better kinds of liquid glue or mucilage are obtained by dissolving gelatin or dextrin in acetic acid and alcohol.

Coating of Wood.

The following is a German recipe for coating wood with a substance as hard as stone: 40 parts of chalk, 50 of resin, and 4 of linseed-oil, melted together; to this should be added one part of oxide of copper, and afterwards one part of sulphuric acid. This last ingredient must be added carefully. The mixture, while hot, is applied with a brush.

Black Paint for Ironwork.

A varnish for iron work can be made as follows: Obtain some good clean gas tar, and boil for four or five hours, until it runs as fine as water; then add one quart of turpentine to a gallon of tar, and boil another half hour. Apply hot.